(c), (d) & (e) The Government have not heard of the case. The Board of Revenue has been asked to report whether the case disclosed any defects in procedure of a general character, and if so, what remedy has been or is proposed to be applied.

Resurvey of the South Kanara district.

*1746 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) to what extent the resurvey of South Kanara district has been affected ; and

(b) whether it is being extended beyond the areas of the old Kasaragod taluk now included in the Mangalore taluk ?

A.—(a) In the Kasaragod taluk 762 square miles are to be resurveyed and up to 31st December 1927, 406 square miles had been resurveyed. In Mangalore taluk the resurvey of the villages of the old Kasaragod taluk (74 square miles) has been completed. In the Puttur taluk 159 square miles are to be resurveyed and up to 31st December 1927, 62 square miles had been resurveyed. These areas in these three taluks comprised the old Kasaragod taluk.

(b) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1667 given on 2nd March 1928.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Local Boards and Municipal Councils

Representation of the depressed classes in local boards.

1747 Q.—Swami A. S. SAHAJANANDAM : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased—

(a) to lay on the table a list of the representatives of the depressed classes (non-Christians) in the various local boards, municipal councils, village panchayats, and union boards ; and

(b) to state the steps taken to secure an equitable and proportionate distribution of such members in all local bodies ?

A.—(a) Lists[a] of representatives of the depressed classes appointed by the Government to district boards and municipal councils and now in office are laid on the table.

The information is not available in respect of taluk boards, union boards and village panchayats.

(b) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to section 7 (3) of the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, and section 9 (5) of the Madras Local Boards Act. The Government have issued instructions impressing on presidents of district and taluk boards that, whenever a suitable nominee is available, a member of the depressed classes should be nominated to taluk and union boards unless the community has already secured adequate representation through election.

Members of village panchayats are all elected.

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[a] Printed as Appendix IV on pages 161-163 infra.

Forests

Control of the Narasingapuram forest in the Gundamanikanur zamindari.

1748* Q.—Mr. L. K. Tulasiram: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state with reference to the answer to question No. 1368 answered on 24th January 1928—

(a) whether the Narasingapuram forest in the Gundamanikanur zamindari and its branches, viz., the Varisanadu forest and the Kadamalakundu forest in the Madura district are at the disposal of Government;

(b) if so, when and how the Government assumed control of the said forest and its branches;

(c) whether M.R.Ry. M. S Sesha Ayyangar Avargal, M.L.A., has, as vakil on behalf of the ryots of Narasingapuram, presented a petition to the Collector of Madura in connexion with the action proposed to be taken under section 26 of the Forest Act;

(d) whether it is a fact that the District Collector and the Conservator of Forests, V Circle, visited the said forest between 18th and 22nd January 1928;

(e) if so, for what purpose and with what object; and

(f) whether the Government are now aware of any of the proposals mentioned in (e) to (g) of my question referred to above?

A.—(a) & (b) The forest referred to is not at the disposal of Government.

(c) Yes.

(d) & (e) The forest was inspected by the Collector and the Conservator in connexion with an application to them by the owner to extend the provisions of section 26 of the Madras Forest Act.

(f) There is no proposal to apply section 29 of the Forest Act.

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II

PERSONAL EXPLANATION OF AN EX-MINISTER.

* Mr. A Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—"Sir, with your permission I beg to offer a word of personal explanation with reference to what was said of me by the hon. Minister yesterday. He stated that I did not answer the question why my hon. Friend Mr. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar and myself met some of the leaders of the Congress party . . ."

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks:—"Sir, I wish to know whether the hon. Member can make a statement in addition to what he made yesterday. I would only ask you to consider whether it is permissible that he should continue from day to day making statements of this nature. It will lead to a debate. The rules, I would submit, contemplate only one statement and one reply."

* The hon. the President:—"The point of order raised is that it may give room to the continuance of the debate."